

REMARKS

Claims 13, 14, 16-24, 37, 38, 40-48, 50 and 52 are pending. Claims 13, 37, 50 and 52 are in independent form.

The abstract, specification and drawings have been amended to attend to formal matters. Support for the amendments made herein can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

With regard to the amendments to the specification at page 31, line 2 and page 32, line 13, it is noted that no change is being made with respect to the original; rather, the superscript character “~” was printed indistinctly in the original, and has accordingly been rewritten herein to ensure that it is correctly printed at such time as the instant application matures into a patent.

In the drawings the following changes have been made:

Fig. 8b: in step S37, “NHLD” has been changed to --NEND-- (see the specification at page 24, line 7);

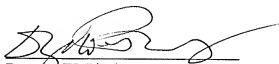
Fig. 10: in the formula given between block 69 and block 71, “f” has been changed to --f'-- (see the specification at page 31, line 2); and

Fig. 16: “c₁₆” has been changed to --c₁₅-- (see the specification at page 37, line 2).

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. W. Pinsky', written over a horizontal line.

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